

Juduser

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 12:16 PM
To: JudTestimony; Farrell, Christopher
Subject: Our Oath: Sworn to support and defend the U.S. Constitution

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

I am sure you are familiar with this preamble of our U.S. Constitution. This Document was inspired by another document of the original inhabitants of this nation called the Great Laws of Peace also known as the Great laws of Peace of the Iroquois Confederacy.

I am a Great Grandchild of Farmers and service members, I am the Grandson of Seamstress, business owner, and Heroes of the Second World War, I am the son of a Seamstress, Baker, a homemaker and a Marine. I am the Brother of two Sisters, the Uncle of their Children, a father and a husband. I am Chihene N'de (Chiricahua Apache from the Red Paint Clan)

I took my oath of service to the United States of America at the age of 17. I have sworn to this oath each and every time I have renewed my service and this oath has no expiration. I have served this country, my country, honourably every day since then and plan to do so till I leave this earth. My oath is similar to your oath in that within this oath we swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States...

This is extremely important because as Americans we have these rights given to us by our creator and these rights, outlined in the U.S. Constitution, you have sworn to uphold. This is why I am concerned with the recent proposals that seek to infringe on some of these rights.

Our communities and nation face various challenges and as elected officials it is your job to address the concerns of your constituents. This is no easy task but one you have volunteered for nonetheless. I can empathise with the tasks you are faced with, but not at the expense of these rights. All too often I have seen elected officials speak down to the American people and behave less like people trying to address concerns and more like people who are trying to rule over the citizens. You will see a great amount of push back when you approach us, (U.S.) citizens like you are the rulers of US. Just like the laws you create, the U.S. constitution are the laws you must work within. You swore an oath to do just that. Americans aren't as ignorant as you might think. Our tolerance and ability to adapt are incredible assets but should not be taken for granted. We elect you and expect that you appreciate that privilege and honour your oath of office.

The Second amendment is a right given to US by our creator and it shall not be infringed. I have read the U.S. Constitution before I accepted my oath of service. I understand that many legislators want to make people believe that this right is about the ability to protect our family and hunt. While it is about defense and protection this is a right to protect FREEDOM; to protect against tyranny. This has very little or nothing to do with hunting. I am sure we can agree on that point. As a Service member we are expected to do our jobs but operate within the confines of not only the UCMJ but the US Constitution. We are expected to follow the orders of the President and the president is expected to be inline with the U.S. Constitution. This only works if this takes place.

You may say we have a "Gun violence" Problem in the United States, but I say we have a FAMILY and Morality problem. We have a crisis of ethics and no amount of restrictive laws is going to fix that. I am sure we also can agree that a firearm is a tool much like a Baseball bat, screw driver, or hammer. These are all inanimate objects and

should not be given any power other than what a person may use them for. Why would violence be attributed to a gun and not any other weapon?

With nearly 400 million fire arms in the U.S. and an estimated 500k- 3 million crimes prevented by an armed citizen per year I would say that those are pretty good statistics. In 2019, according to FBI data, there were about 14,000 homicides 46% were committed by people using hand guns and less than 3% were people using a Rifle and 1.4% a shot gun . Here in CT 1% of the homicides were committed with a Rifle and 11% with a handgun. I would love to see a day where we as U.S. citizens would not need to defend ourselves from criminals and the threat of tyranny but that day is not upon us. One would have to agree that with as many guns as we have in this country our stats of law abiding gun owners vs Criminals are pretty good.

As elected officials it is highly prejudicial to acknowledge violence committed with guns and not acknowledge the millions of law abiding citizens who, on a yearly basis, successfully use their firearms to defend themselves and others. I also would at that this is achieved without firing a single shot in nearly 82% of the cases according American Gun facts.

These Gun control measures are largely aimed at law abiding citizens and making us more vulnerable to criminals and to our justice system that seems to favour creating felons out of law abiding citizens than arresting the criminals that perpetrate the crimes. I have lived in CT for nearly 20 years and I have watched new laws come down the pipe and watch many law abiding citizens like myself step to the plate to become compliant of said laws. Yet I see criminals still committing violent crimes and ignoring the rule of law. While we, the people, buy our guns with 10 round magazines putting our lives at risk. See, the criminals who invade your home or jack your car will not be concerned about magazine capacity. They typically attack in groups of 2 or more so as a law abiding citizen, even if the criminals would adhere to the magazine capacity, we are facing off with two assailants with at least 20 rounds to our 10 rounds. Now let's not pretend that a criminal looking to rob a home or car jack someone with a gun would even care about magazine capacity. So, what are we truly trying to accomplish with this limited capacity magazines? According to FBI statistics the majority of these crimes are committed by repeat felons with stolen firearms and again vast majority are handguns.

Don't get me wrong I am not advocating to restrict handguns or any guns for that matter. I am merely pointing out that there is a very loud and obvious push to restrict and limit rifles in the hands of law abiding citizens and it is disingenuous of you to act like this is out of concern for public safety when it is obvious that this is a direct attempt to further infringe on our God given right to keep and bear arms. A right that you have sworn to uphold.

Again, I understand the task of keeping your oath and creating laws to accomplish that. My suggestion would be to leave the law abiding citizens be and focus on the criminals that already exist and not try and make criminals out of Law abiding citizens merely exercising a God given right you vowed to protect.

Sincerely,

Mark OneWolf Yancey
USN, US ARMY VET